[30th January 1929

(c) It is never possible to say that no *other* suitable person is available for nomination in any particular vacancy. The Government are, however, satisfied that there was in this instance no *more* suitable person for nomination, after considering the claims of members of other communities.

(d) & (e) No.

(f) A list [a] of members as on 30th September 1928 is laid on the table. No later list is available.

Municipal Councils

Recovery of the defalcated amount in Tellicherry municipality.

*1178 *Q.*—Mr. K. Uppi Sahib: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether a shroff of the Tellicherry municipality was prosecuted and convicted for defalcation of the municipal money;

(b) whether the municipality realized the amount from anybody;

(c) whether the Committee appointed by the Municipal Council to enquire into the matter submitted a report to the Government; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to take necessary steps to recoup the loss sustained by the Council, if the Council had not yet realized the amount?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The Committee appointed by the Council submitted its report to the Council and the Government have perused a copy of it.

(d) The Government understand that the Municipal Council proposes to file suits against the shroff and his sureties for the recovery of the amounts embezzled by the shroff.

The Examiner of Local Fund Accounts is considering the question of surcharging the loss.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Working of the Devasthanam Committees.

*1179 *Q.*—Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any report has been called for as regards the working of the newly formed Devasthanam Committees in the several districts;

(b) whether he has decided to renew the existing committees or to hold elections or to reconstitute the committees for another year;

(c) what is the basis on which he proposes to arrive at a decision in the matter;

---

[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 417-419 infra.

(*d*) whether it is a fact that several complaints were received against the Vellore Devasthanam Committee and whether the Hindu Religious Endowments Board had to interfere on several occasions; and

(*e*) whether Government will call for a report on the working of the Vellore Devasthanam Committee?

A.—(*a*) Under the rules issued under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, the Hindu Religious Endowments Board has to submit a review of the administration of temple committees along with its administration report.

(*b*) & (*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 499 on the 10th October 1928.

(*d*) The information available is that the committee was not working satisfactorily mainly owing to want of funds.

(*e*) The Vellore Circle Temple Committee has been abolished and a new committee has been constituted for the North Arcot district from 21st August 1928.

Schemes framed under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act in Guntur district.

* 1180 *Q.*—Mr. P. Anjaneyulu: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many schemes have been so far framed under the Hindu Religious Endowments Act in the district of Guntur; and

(*b*) how many suits have been filed by archakas, trustees or others interested in the temple endowments in the same district during the years 1926, 1927 and 1928, and with what results?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the administration reports of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board so far published. The Government have no subsequent information.

Provincialization of the clerical establishment of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 1181 *Q.*—Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of mutts and temples exempted by Government under the provisions of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act;

(*b*) the amount of contribution that is lost to the Board by such exemptions;

(*c*) the reasons why provident funds have not been started for the clerical staff of the office of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board;

(*d*) whether they are aware of the difficulties experienced by the staff of the office of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board in getting their monthly salaries; and

(*e*) whether they will be pleased to consider the question of provincialization of the clerical establishment of the office of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board?